

COUNTRY International

CIA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Invitation to the Third World Congress of Youth
and the Fourth World Festival of Youth in Bucharest

DATE _____

PLACE ACQUIRED -----

Supplement to:

DATE ACQUIRED August 53
(BY SOURCE)

Responsive to:

DATE (OF INFO) July 53

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On 10 Aug 53 I received the following letter from the Women's International Federation in Berlin:

FEDERATION DEMOCRATIQUE INTERNATIONALE DES FEMMES
WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION
FEDERACION DEMOCRATICA INTERNACIONAL DE MUJERES
/Also in Russian and Chinese/

July, 1953

Dear Friend,

"As you know the III World Congress of Youth and the IV World Festival of Youth and Students are taking place this summer in Bucharest in which thousands of young people from more than 60 countries will take part.

"We call on all supporters of the W.I.D.F., fighters for world peace and the rights of women everywhere, to make these events outstanding successes in our struggle for peace among all peoples and the Rights of Youth.

"The programme for the Festival is the richest and most varied ever established for a manifestation of that kind. It takes into consideration all aspects of life of young people, all their tastes and aspirations.

"The programme will comprise discussions, cultural representations and competitions; a Film Festival, documentary and artistic exhibitions, friendly parties, dances, visits, etc. A special place is reserved for friendly international sports competitions of youths organised by the International Committee with the co-operation of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sport of the Rumanian People's Republic Council of Ministers.

"You may have heard that such youth camps and festivals create an easy opportunity for immorality and that the conditions in which the young people are accommodated encourage promiscuity. This is merely the expression of old-fashioned prejudice. At a gathering of this size complete segregation of the sexes is of course neither desirable nor practicable and you may rest assured that your daughter or son will be provided with adequate accommodation similar to that they would receive at an open air holiday camp.

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"The festival will be an expression of the progressive and healthy relationship between the sexes. It will be an expression of the new morality of world youth and the new responsibility felt by democratic governments which pay increased attention to the protection of young people, mothers, unmarried mothers and their children, the future guardians of the new order.

"As at previous Youth Festivals in the countries of the new democracy, such as that held two years ago in Berlin or last year in Warsaw, the young people will be happy to find themselves developing new relationships, free from the restraint imposed by religious teaching and outdated conventions.

"The young people will be well cared for by the organisers of the Festival. They need only bring with them sufficient clothing for a stay of two weeks, good shoes and a change of underclothes. Every effort will be made by their Rumanian hosts, but a few provisions, such as tinned food, soap, razor blades and mending materials should, if possible, be taken. These items are still short and expensive despite the splendid achievements made by Rumanian workers in the re-building of their country. But they will definitely be supplied with notepaper, envelopes, stamps and there will be plenty of reading matter.

"Young people will bring back with them unforgettable, lasting and living memories from the Festival.

"Every woman and mother must learn of this message by the Executive Committee of the W.I.D.F. which is addressed to each one of them personally. Would you kindly seek all opportunities for making this message known to women as it will help to draw large numbers of youth to Bucharest this summer.

"Women of the world respond to this call! Send your sons and daughters to Bucharest! Forward to peace and friendship among the young peace-loving people of the world!

"We send you our best wishes for success.

"Sincerely yours,

/S/ Simone Bertrand
Simone BERTRAND
For the Secretariat.

/S/ M C Vaillant Couturier

Marie-Claude Vaillant-Couturier
General Secretary."

- end -

Youth Congress

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